

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Chinese Communist Dealings with
Merchant Seamen

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1. When Chinese Communist representatives approached the officers and seamen of the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company (CMSNC) ships in Hong Kong in the effort to sell victory bonds, the master of SS CHIAO JEN (教仁) agreed to purchase 100 units of bonds. The seamen complained of the approaches made to them.*
2. TUNG Hua-min (董華民), the Chinese Communist representative sent from Shanghai to control the CMSNC seamen in Hong Kong**, appointed HUANG Yuan-p'ei (黃元培) director of seamen on the SS TS'AI O (蔡錫), and TS'AO Chen-ku (曹振鵠) director of seamen on the SS HAI HAN (海漢).
3. Seventy-eight seamen from the CMSNC ships organized a second "visit China" tour and left Hong Kong by train on 9 May 1950.
4. When the SS HUPEH*** was in Tientsin, seamen on board the vessel were asked to pay union membership fees. One man was appointed to collect the dues and was authorized to retain three percent of the amount collected as his commission. Membership fee receipt forms were printed in Hong Kong.

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* [] Comment. [] mentioned dissatisfaction among the CMSNC seamen in Hong Kong.

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** [] Comment. In October 1949 TUNG was reported as military representative for the General Affairs Department of the CMSNC.

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